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10/27/81 132843

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EXCISE

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PAGE 01

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 7956

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 7956 VICE 5508)

E.O. 12065: GDS 10 27/86 (HAVERKAMP, R) OR-M

TAGS: SOPN, JM, US

SUBJECT: KINGSTON PRESS CONFERENCE OF U.S. CONCERNED CITIZENS
COMMITTEE ON JAMAICA

REFS: (A) STATE 280431, (B) KINGSTON 7788, (C) STATE 282464,
(D) STATE 282427, (E) STATE 284486, (F) KINGSTON 7846

1. (U) ON OCTOBER 24 SEAN GERVASI AND EDWARD
PALMER (MISIDENTIFIED BY DAILY NEWS AS "SOUTH AGINAW"),
IDENTIFIED AS TWO MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CONCERNED CITIZENS
COMMITTEE OF JAMAICA, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE NEW
KINGSTON HOTEL, ALLEGEDLY SPONSORED BY THE RADICAL PEOPLE'S
NATIONAL PARTY YOUTH ORGANIZATION, TO DISCUSS THE CONSLUSION
OF WHAT THEY SAID WAS AN 83-PAGE REPORT ENTITLED

"THE
ESTABILIZATION OF JAMAICA." THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED
DAILY NEWS GAVE THEIR COMMENTS PAGE THREE COVERAGE ON
OCTOBER 25 AND THE PRO-PNP JBC GAVE SEVERAL MINUTES AT THE END
OF THE EVENING TELEVISION NEWS OCTOBER 24. JBC RADIO CARRIED A
VERY BRIEF REPORT. THE ANTI-PNP DAILY GLEANER CARRIED A
BRIEF ARTICLE ON PAGE NINE ON OCTOBER 27.

2. (U) THE MAINPOINTS REPORTED IN THE DAILY NWS

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PAGE 02

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ARTICLE ARE:

-- A SPECIAL U.S. CONGRESSION INVESTIGATION IS
WARRANTED;

-- THE COMMITTEE CONSISTED OF ABOUT 45 MEMBERS WHO HADRNEQ
MADE AN INTENSIVE ON-MONTH REVIEW OF U.S.-JAMAICAN
RELATIONS;

--SENIOR USG OFFICIALS HAVE PLACED STORIES IN THE PRESS
INTENDED TO DISCREDIT AND UNDE
MINE THE JAMAICAN GOVERN-
MENT;

-- BETWEEN 1976 AND 1980 THE ICA APPEARS TO HAVE SUB-
STANTIALLY EXPANDED ITS PERSONNEL IN KINGSTON, THEREBY
INCREASING ITS CAPABILITY FOR INTELLIGENC GATHERING AND
COVERT ACTION IN JAMAICA;

-- VIOLENCE IN JAMAICA: HAS ASSUMED A PARA-MILITARY

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E
b(1) ED;
b(5)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY RG
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED
248 JUN 1982

PAGE 1

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CHARACTER, WITH GROUPS INCREASINGLY ARMED WITH SEMI-AUTOMATIC WEAPONS MADE IN THE US; -- A SOURCE IN THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY ESTIMATES THAT 6,000 WEAPONS HAVE BEEN IMPORTED ILLEGALLY IN THE PAST YEAR;

-- FORMER US DEFENSE ATTACHE LINDGREN MET WITH JLF OFFICERS LATER DETAINED IN CONNECTION WITH THE ALLEGED JUN COUP PLAN; AT THE VERY LEAST, IT WAS LIKELY THAT THE AMERICAN OFFICER KNEW OF THE CONSPIRACY;

-- EVERGREEN INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE, WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE AN IMPORTANT DIRECT CONNECTION WITH THE CIA, CEASED ITS NEW PHILADELPHIA-MONTEGO BAY SERVICE AT THE REQUEST OF THE GOJ, WHICH SUSPECTED IT MIGHT BE ENGAGED IN CLANDESTINE OPERATIONS AND NOT BECAUSE IT HAD INSUFFICIENT PASSENGERS.

3. (U) THE DAILY GLEANER REPORTED THE PRESS CONFERENCE UNDER THE HEADLINE, "VISITING UNITED STATES GROUP SUPPORTS

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PAGE 03 KINGST 07956 310520Z

PNP." THE GLEANER MAINTAINS THAT THE GROUP WHOSE REPORT HAS BEEN ISSUED IS NOT THE SAME "COMMISSION" WHICH VISITED JAMAICA IN AUGUST; IT QUOTES A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LATTER GROUP AS SAYING OCTOBER 24 THAT THE COMMISSION HAD COMPLETED ITS INVESTIGATION BUT WAS NOT READY TO RELEASE ITS REPORT. HOWEVER, SOME MEMBERS OF THE "COMMITTEE" WERE ALSO CONNECTED TO THE "COMMISSION."

4. (U) THE GLEANER QUOTED A SPOKESMAN FOR THE GROUP, EDWARD BUZZ PALMER, IDENTIFIED AS A HEALTH PLANNER, AS DESCRIBING THE COMMITTEE WAS CONSISTING OF FORTY PEOPLE INCLUDING DEBRA JACKSON AND DR. JOY CAREW, WIFE OF GUYANESE AUTHOR JAN CAREW. HE SAID THE GROUP WAS FORMED "SOME" MONTHS AGO AND EACH MEMBER HAD VISITED JAMAICA AT LEAST TWICE. HE READ A STATEMENT SUPPORTING PRIME MINISTER MANLEY AND THE PNP AND CALLING ON THE JAMAICAN PEOPLE TO "REPEL THE FORCES OF BACKWARDNESS AND

TO WORK
FOR A JAMAICA FOREVER LIBERATED FROM ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INJUSTICE.

6.

b(1) ED; b(5)

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PAGE 2

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PAGE 3